

STRAUS GETS IN LINE

Democrats Organize the Maryland Legislature Without Hitch.

TRouble MAY COME LATER ON

Mr. Straus Declares His Surrender is Only Temporary.

GOVERNOR SMITH'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE EVENING STAR.
STATE HOUSE, ANNAPOLIS, Md., Jan-
uary 1.—The general assembly of Mary-
land was organized promptly at noon to-
day without a hitch and the program of
the democratic bosses was carried through
without friction.
John Hubner of Baltimore was elected
president of the senate, and Noble
L. Mitchell of Harford county, speaker of
the house. The other officers elected in
the senate were Albert Ritter of Fred-

The republican nominees were: For president of the senate, Lewis Patzel of Baltimore; reading clerk, and Richard Worthington of Baltimore, journal clerk. In the house Dr. Benjamin L. Smith of Dorchester was chosen chief clerk, Mr. Frederick Sasser of Prince George's county journal clerk, and Walter R. Townsend reading clerk.

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The respective nominees polled their full support and the democratic candidates were chosen by a majority of eight in the senate and seven in the house.

Gov. Smith's Message

Governor Smith sent his biennial message to the general assembly after the organization of the two houses. It is a long and uninteresting document, and is devoted to a detailed account of the condition of public affairs since the opening of his administration two years ago. He defends the extra session of last year and commends the new election law and the state census. He recommends several changes in the ballot law which will make it more difficult for illiterate citizens to vote and still further restrict the suffrage. The state finances are shown to be in excellent condition, but rigid economy is urged upon the

The usual time-honored ceremonies were used in the opening of the two houses, and the whole proceeding was formal and dignified.

Notices of contest were filed by both parties against several members who were elected and elected at least one-third of the members of the two houses have contests on their hands, which are about equally divided between the two parties. The general impression is that most of these are merely bluffs and will never be pushed to conclusion, as that would involve more time and labor and prevent them to great extent the transaction of any other business.

Democratic Break Averted.
The threatened break in the ranks of the democrats was averted after much trouble and many conferences, which lasted up to the opening at noon. Governor Smith acted as peacemaker and managed to persuade Mr. Straus and his friends to allow the organization of the house to take place without any vote. Straus, in explaining his position, said that he had in no wise abated his hostility to the bosses, but would defer further action until later. While the work of organizing the house was going on, the speaker of the assembly and the bosses managed affairs from the speaker's room.

Among the prominent republicans at the assembly were Representatives Wachtler and Schirm, who acted as advisors to the republican members of the general assembly. The speaker of the assembly, in organizing the two houses of the general assembly and the reading of the governor's message an adjournment was taken until tomorrow at 11 p.m.

KILLED THREE TONS OF SPARROWS.
Result of the Annual Hunt of Illinois Farmers.
PANA, Ill., January 1.—The annual sparrow hunt of Pleasant township has ended and as a result three tons of sparrows were killed. The hunt was indulged in by two parties of farmers. Twenty men on each side engaged in the pursuit, the stake being a banquet to be given by the party securing the fewest birds. The victorious party brought in 15,000 birds, while the losers bagged 11,000, a total of 24,000. The birds averaged four ounces each. The hunt has been in progress for one week.

THREW LIGHTED LAMP AT WIFE.
Cleveland Man Resented Her Drinking Beer Late at Night.
 CLEVELAND, Ohio, January 1.—When Frank Bayes, living on Hamilton street, returned home early in the morning, He found his wife and a girl named Lucy Bedow drinking beer. The scene angered him and he threw a lighted lamp at his wife, which struck her, exploded and then glanced off, hitting the girl. The burning oil set the clothing of both women on fire. The women are now at the hospital, probably fatally burned, and Bayes is under arrest.

MURDER AND OUTRAGE AT DENVER.

Boy Killed and His Sister Brutally Assaulted.

DENVER, Colo., January 1.—An unknown man last night attacked Harold Friedburn, aged fifteen, and Florence, his sister, aged sixteen, while they were skating on a small pond near their home in North Denver. The boy was struck on the head with an ax and instantly killed. The girl was then assaulted. Some time later she recovered consciousness and reached her home, where she was notified that her girl gave a fair description of the man. She says she bit his finger severely and the police hope this may aid them in his apprehension.

Explosion of a Boiler Under School at Duluth.

DULUTH, Minn., January 1.—The explosion of a boiler in the basement of the Sacred Heart Institute here last night resulted in a loss of six lives and twenty-two injured, while the seventy persons who were within at the time, narrowly escaped being killed or injured.

Devotions were in progress at the time when the chapel and Bishop James McGlocklen was just pronouncing the benediction. The explosion came up through the windows and every window in the entire structure was completely shattered. To add to the horror, the boiler was situated in the room directly above the boiler room, but the prompt arrival of the department soon had it under control. No one was seriously injured, but twenty of about twenty hundred scholars, but, fortunately, most of them were at home.